

Seattle Fire Marshal's Office

220 3rd Avenue S. Seattle, WA 98104-2608

Phone: 206-386-1450 Fax: 206-386-1348



Certification Program and Fees in 2017

On January 1, 2017, certification test fees will increase to \$407. These fees are due only once every three years at the time of testing. Certificates to perform work on fire protection and/or life safety systems will continue to remain valid for one year, and will be renewable at no additional cost for two subsequent years. The fee increase is intended to more closely align fee levels with current service costs, and also includes an additional 7% increase to partially offset the cost of replacing aging technology systems in Fire Marshal's Office over the next five to six years. Certification fees were last increased in 2015. Specific program changes include:

Documentation of State Certification of Competency for Sprinklers Beginning January 1, 2017

The certification application process currently asks customers seeking sprinkler certification to sign an affidavit that they have and will maintain a State issued Certification of Competency. Beginning January 1, 2017, in addition to signing the affidavit, customers will be asked to present of copy of the current documentation along with their application.

Alignment of SFD Fire Alarm Certifications with State Certifications Beginning July 1, 2017

Effective July 1, 2017, state law will require technicians working on fire alarms to hold a NICET II license to perform all inspection, testing, maintenance, and programming not defined as "electrical construction trade" by chapter 19.28 of the Revised Code of Washington. As a result, beginning July 1, 2017, technicians seeking to receive or renew the FA-1 and FA-ITM certificate will need to demonstrate that they hold the NICET II certification.

Note: New Systems Testing Oversight (Confidence Test Reporting) Program to Begin Q2 or Q3 2017

The Seattle Fire Department (SFD) along with Bellevue, Mercer Island, Shoreline and Redmond, will implement a systems testing oversight program or "confidence testing" reporting program. These cities are contracting with a private company to track and drive code compliance, reduce false alarms, and provide a safer city through third party inspection reporting and maintenance. The Seattle program is planned to take effect in Q2 or Q3 2017 – we will provide additional notice about the timeline and townhalls/training sessions as that information becomes available.

- Certified technicians or the companies that employ them will be required to submit all test reports to the Seattle Fire Department via the third party's website within seven days and pay a \$30 per test report filing fee.
- The mandatory process for notifying SFD of impaired systems <http://www.seattle.gov/fire/FMO/confidenceTesting/notifications.htm> is not changing. Technicians and/or impairment coordinators will still be required to call the impaired systems hotline and submit the impairment planning form whenever planned or emergency impairments are anticipated to last eight or more hours. It is important to continue this process so that in cases of critical impairments SFD receives immediate notice and can take action to keep people, property, and first responders safe in case of an emergent situation.
- For information regarding the new systems testing oversight program, see the Systems Testing page here: <http://www.seattle.gov/fire/FMO/confidenceTesting/ct.htm>

For more information about the 2017 changes in the Certification Program, please call our office at 206-386-1450 and ask to speak with the Certification Lieutenant. For questions related to the systems testing program, please email SFD_FMO_SystemsTesting@seattle.gov. Thank you for your business and we wish you a safe and successful 2017.